

Message Text

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43

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-09 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14

USIA-12 M-03 A-01 EB-11 SCA-01 SY-07 USSS-00 DOTE-00

FAA-00 CAB-09 JUSE-00 AF-10 ARA-11 EA-11 NEA-10

COME-00 AID-20 OMB-01 IOE-00 INRE-00 RSR-01 /199 W

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P 231703 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7007

USMISSION USUN PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 1620

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, UN

SUBJECT: TERRORISM COMMITTEE

REF: USUN 985

1. BELGIAN DRAFT RESPONSE TO SYG AND POSITION ON MEETING OF TERRORISM COMMITTEE (REFTEL) ARE FURTHER REFLECTIONS OF SERIOUS CONCERN GOB FEELS RE NEED TO COMBAT TERRORISM. THEY CONFORM TO ACTION GOB HAS TAKEN IN DEMARCHE TO ARAB AMBASSADORS ON SUPPORT FOR TERRORIST GROUPS (BRUSSELS 1587) AND IN ADVOCACY OF STRONG ANTI- TERRORISM RESOLUION AT COUNCIL OF EUROPE (VIENNA 2278). (IN SAME CONNECTION WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT BELGIAN WAS ONLY REPRESENTATIVE AT MARCH 12 EC MIDDLE EAST EXPERTS MEETING TO SUPPORT IDEA THAT EUROPEANS SHOULD NOT YIELD TO BLACKMAIL WHEN HOSTAGES TAKEN.) IN SHORT, BELGIUM SEEMS TO BE ONE OF FEW EUROPEAN COUNTRIES WILLING TO PRESS VIGOROUSLY FOR INTERNATIONAL MEASURES AGAINST TERRORISM.

2. BELGIAN ACTION IS GRATIFYING IN VIEW OF NUMEROUS US APPEALS FOR COOPERATION IN FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISM. WE THINK IT
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IMPORTANT, THEREFORE, NOT TO TAKE STANCE AT UN WHICH MIGHT DISCOURAGE GOB FROM SEEKING VIGOROUS COMMON ACTION OR APPEAR TO UNDERCUT BELGIAN POSITION WITH OTHERS. WE ARE NOT IN POSITION TO JUDGE APPROPRIATE TIMING OF MEETING OF TERRORISM COMMITTEE. BUT WE URGE THAT USUN EXPLAIN CAREFULLY TO BELGIAN DELEGATION RATIONALE FOR US POSITION ON MEETING AND MAKE CLEAR THAT US APPRECIATES AND SHARES GOB DESIRE TO PROMOTE EARLY UN ACTION ON TERRORISM AND WILL WORK CLOSELY WITH BELGIANS TO BRING THIS ABOUT. IF BELGIANS UNCONVINCED BY US TACTICAL ARGUMENTS, IT WOULD SEEM WORTHWHILE TO RECONSIDER WHETHER US MIGHT SUPPORT BELGIA POSITION. STRAUZ- HUPE

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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30 JUN 2005

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